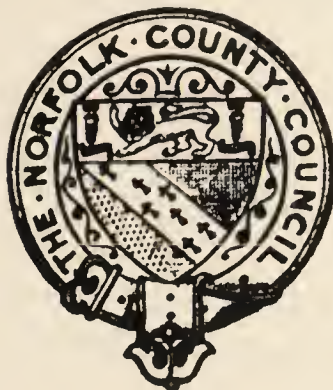


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INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL  
MEDICINE

10. PARKS ROAD,  
OXFORD



NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

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# ANNUAL REPORT


OF THE

## COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR

### 1947

T. RUDDOCK-WEST, M.D., D.P.H.  
County Medical Officer



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# Public Health Officers of the County Council

## HEADQUARTERS STAFF.

### County Medical Officer:

T. RUDDOCK-WEST, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

### Deputy County Medical Officer:

W. R. CLAYTON HESLOP, M.D., F.R.C.S.E., D.P.H.

### Senior Assistant County Medical Officer:

S. T. G. GRAY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (From 1st July)

### Clinical Tuberculosis Officers:

W. B. CHRISTOPHERSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

H. B. HODSON, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

### Assistant County Medical Officers and District Medical Officers of Health:

L. G. ANDERSON, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. (to 18.10.47).

C. T. DARWENT, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H. (from 1.4.47).

IRENE B. M. GREEN, M.D., B.S., D.P.H. (from 1.4.47).

J. C. JOHNSTON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H. (from 8.10.47).

R. C. MacLEOD, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.&H. (from 21.4.47).

W. W. SINCLAIR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (from 19.5.47).

C. S. THOMSON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

### Assistant Medical Officers:

IRENE B. M. GREEN, M.D., B.S., D.P.H. (to 31.3.47).

VIOLET M. JEWSON, M.A., M.B., Ch.B.

J. W. McINTOSH, B.Sc.(P.H.), M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.E. (part-time).

C. MARGARET McLEOD, M.B., Ch.B. (part-time).

J. S. MOORE, F.R.C.S.E., D.P.H. (28.4.47—31.12.47).

A. A. MURRAY, M.B., Ch.B. (part-time) (28.2.47—20.3.47).

MARY V. ROSE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (20.1.47—29.3.47).

D. MORRISON SMITH, M.B., Ch.B. (to 7.6.47).

### Medical Officer County Isolation Hospital:

C. S. THOMSON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H. (From 25th Aug.)

### Senior Dental Officer:

P. MILLICAN, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.).

### Dental Officers:

C. BAINES, L.D.S. (part-time 3.6.47—31.12.47).

I. F. BURNS, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Edin.), (from 13.10.47).

SADIE S. HOW, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.).

J. NIXON, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Edin.).

E. C. PACKHAM, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.).

F. W. WALMSLEY, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Edin.), (from 20.10.47).

C. R. WOLFENDALE, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Edin.).

### County Sanitary Officer:

G. W. CURTIS, M.I.S.E., C.I.S.B., Meat and Food Inspector's Cert. D.P.A.

### Senior Assistant County Sanitary Officer:

A. J. ALLISON, C.S.I.B., Meat and Food Inspector's Cert.

### Assistant County Sanitary Officer:

F. E. NORWOOD, C.S.I.B., Meat and Food Inspector's Cert.



### **Supervisor of Midwives and Superintendent Health Visitor:**

MISS M. V. E. DAVEY, S.R.N. S.C.M., R.S.I.Cert.

### **Senior Assistant Supervisor:**

MISS D. E. UNSWORTH, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

### **Assistant Supervisor:**

MISS N. FOLLENFANT, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

### **Health Visitors:**

MISS D. PARKER, R.S.C.N., S.C.M. (to 1.8.47).

MISS D. M. HODGSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert. (from 1.9.47).

### **Physiotherapists:**

MRS. M. P. BAKER, C.S.P., O.N.C. (from 2.6.47).

MRS. F. M. F. KEANE, C.S.P.

MISS F. W. THOMAS, C.S.P., O.N.C.

MISS M. H. WYER, C.S.P., O.N.C., M.A.O.T.

### **School Nurses and Child Life Protection Visitors:**

MISS E. B. BYGRAVE, Trained Nurse

MRS. P. D. CHADWICK, R.S.C.N.

MISS D. M. HODGSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert. (to 31.8.47).

MISS A. E. HOLDEN, R.S.C.N.

MRS. A. M. KNOTT, Trained Nurse. Sick Children

MRS. F. B. NEVILLE, S.R.N.

\*MRS. W. M. PETTS, S.R.N.

MRS. M. I. QUAYLE, S.R.N.

MISS C. SHINGLETON, S.R.N.

MISS D. VICKERS, S.R.N.

MRS. O. WAINWRIGHT, Trained Nurse, Sick Children

\*MRS. E. WITTRED, S.R.N.

\*Not Child Life Protection Visitors.

### **Dental Attendants:**

MRS. M. BAINES (part-time 3.6.47—31.12.47).

MRS. P. B. BATEMAN (from 20.10.47).

MISS J. BUFFHAM (from 13.10.47).

MISS P. M. HART

MISS G. LYON (from 1.3.47).

MISS N. RADFORD

MISS G. H. RICHES (to 14.1.47).

MISS B. ST. QUINTIN

### **Home Teachers and Visitors under the Blind Persons Act:**

MISS H. G. BELLAMY, Cert. College of Teachers of the Blind

MISS M. R. GREEN

MISS K. M. HOLLIDAY, Cert. College of Teachers of the Blind.

MISS M. P. VINCENT (from 1.9.47).

### **Melton Lodge Orthopædic Home:**

*Matron:* MISS A. L. M. HELLARD, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N.

*Head Teacher:* MISS F. C. WESTGATE, Cert. Teacher (from 21.4.47).

MRS. R. W. REYNOLDS (temporary to 31.3.47).

### **County Isolation Hospital:**

*Matron:* MISS M. D. PATERSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N.

### **Chief Clerk:**

C. J. HUBBARD

**CONSULTANT AND OTHER STAFF.**

**Orthopædic Surgeon:**

H. A. BRITTAIN, O.B.E., M.A., M.B., M.Ch., B.A.O., F.R.C.S.

**Consultants—Maternity Services:**

M. W. BULMAN, M.D.(Obstet.), M.S., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G.  
J. O. HARRISON, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S.  
J. LEWIN, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S.

**Ophthalmic Specialists:**

A. GREENE, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S.I.  
R. H. HUCKNALL, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.E., D.O.M.S.  
G. MAXTED, M.D., F.R.C.S.  
S. T. PARKER, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.  
W. E. RUTLEDGE, L.R.C.P.I., L.R.C.S.I., L.M., D.O.M.S.  
DOROTHY K. SOUPER, M.A., M.B., B Chir., D.O.M.S.

**Aural Specialists:**

N. S. CARRUTHERS, F.R.C.S.E., D.L.O.  
R. A. HIGHMOOR, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., F.R.C.S.E., D.L.O.  
J. LEWIN, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S.

**Medical Officers, Venereal Diseases Clinics:**

A. G. SMITH, M.D., F.R.C.S., Norwich  
J. W. MCINTOSH, B.Sc.(P.H.), M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.E. King's Lynn  
C. S. THOMSON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., East Dereham.

**Consulting Heart Specialist:**

W. A. OLIVER, M.B.E., M.D., M.R.C.P.

**Speech Therapist (part-time):**

MISS DOREEN G. BARBER, L.C.S.T.

**County Analyst:**

W. LINCOLNE SUTTON, F.R.I.C.

**Inspectors under Food and Drugs Act:**

A. R. BAILEY  
E. R. GRAINGER  
W. OLIVER  
E. C. WESTWOOD

*(These Officers are also Inspectors of Weights and Measures)*

**Medical Officers under the Poor Law Acts:**

District Medical Officers	...	...	85
Medical Officers of Institutions	...	...	12
Public Vaccinators	...	...	80
Vaccination Officers	...	...	25

**Milk and Dairies Acts:**

Veterinary Inspectors	...	...	35
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**Dental Surgeons:**

Dental Officers under the Council's Schemes for Expectant and Nursing Mothers,				
Tuberculosis, Blind Persons and Public Assistance	...	...	...	24



# PREFACE

The delay in presenting this report has been unavoidable due to the re-organisation of services which was necessitated by the National Health Service Act, 1946, as from the 5th July, 1948. During the year under review it was necessary to prepare the proposals under Sections 21—29 and Section 51 of the Act. These proposals, which were subsequently approved with only slight amendments by the Minister of Health, marked further stages in the provision of a comprehensive health service in the administrative county. In many instances these stages merely represent extensions of existing schemes. This is the 41st report in the series and the 20th which I have had the honour to present.

In 1947, the birth rate, per thousand of the estimated population, was 20.84 an increase of 1.05 on the previous year and .34 above the birth rate for England and Wales. Illegitimate births again showed a marked decrease, the proportion being 1 in 16.6 births compared with 1 in 11.7 in 1946 and 1 in 7.3 in 1945.

The death rate for the year, per thousand of the estimated population, was 12.79 compared with 12.0 for England and Wales. Corresponding figures for 1946 were 12.18 and 11.5. The mortality rate, per thousand births, in infants under 1 year of age, was 36.69 compared with 31.46 in the previous year and 41.00 for England and Wales. The maternal mortality rate, per thousand births showed a marked decline and was .97 compared with 1.17 for the country as a whole. The comparative figures for 1946 were 1.62 and 1.30 respectively. This is very gratifying particularly in view of the increased birth rate.

The number of new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year show a decline from the previous year. The case rate being .62 compared with .85 in 1946. The case rate in non-pulmonary cases remains fairly constant being .35 as against .34 in the previous year.

1947 has seen marked progress with the County Council's scheme to cover the whole of the administrative county with full-time Medical Officers who devote part of their time to the duties of District Medical Officer of Health. Appointments were made in four further combined areas making six areas so covered out of nine.

1947 must be regarded as a highly satisfactory year from a progress point of view and the signs which were evident in 1946 of conditions returning to normal after the war years have been amply confirmed.

I must once again express my thanks to the various Committees and Sub-Committees of the County Council for their valued co-operation and help in administering the health services of the county, and to the professional and clerical staffs of the Public Health Department for the loyal and efficient way in which they have so cheerfully undertaken their duties.

T. RUDDOCK-WEST.

Public Health Department,  
29, Thorpe Road,  
Norwich.

*February, 1949.*

# Statistics and Social Conditions of the Administrative County

AREA	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,302,744 acres
POPULATION—CENSUS, 1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	318,903
	Estimated by Registrar-General	...	...	...	...	...	340,250
PRODUCT OF PENNY RATE for general purposes	...	...	...	...	...	...	£5,306
RATEABLE VALUE for general purposes	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1,320,886

## BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

	Total.	M.	F.
Live births—			
Legitimate	6663	3410	3253
Illegitimate	427	216	211
Birth rate per 1000 of the estimated population:			20.84
Still Births	137	72	65
Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births:			18.95
Deaths	4354	2189	2165
Death rate per 1000 of the estimated population:			12.79

### Deaths from Puerperal Causes—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal sepsis	—	—
Other puerperal causes	7	0.97
Total	7	0.97

### Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age—

All infants per 1000 live births	...	...	36.39
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	...	...	34.22
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	...	...	70.26

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	631
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	2
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	24
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	3

The following table shows the number of live births registered and the birth rates during the past five years:—

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY.					Rate for England & Wales	
Year.		Net No. Regstd.		Rate.		
1943	...	5807	...	17.70	...	16.5
1944	...	6611	...	20.06	...	17.6
1945	...	5969	...	18.38	...	16.1
1946	...	6612	...	19.79	...	19.1
1947	...	7090	...	20.84	...	20.5



The following table gives a comparison of the number of deaths and death rates during the past five years:—

Year.	URBAN.		RURAL.		ADM. COUNTY.		ENGLAND & WALES.	
	No. of Deaths.	Crude Death Rate.	No. of Deaths.	Crude Death Rate.	No. of Deaths.	Crude Death Rate.	Crude Death Rate.	
1943 ...	865	13.54	3277	12.41	4142	12.63	12.1	
1944 ...	865	13.50	3344	12.59	4209	12.77	11.6	
1945 ...	857	13.57	3198	12.22	4055	12.48	11.4	
1946 ...	870	13.19	3201	11.94	4071	12.18	11.5	
1947 ...	947	14.01	3407	12.49	4354	12.62	12.0	

The maternal mortality rate per 1000 births was 0.97 compared with 1.17 for England and Wales.

The following table gives the causes of death in 1947 at specified ages:—  
(Figures given by Registrar-General)

CAUSES OF DEATH.				Total all Ages.	0-	1-	5-	15-	45-	65-
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	...	...	...	4	2	1	1	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	3	3	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System ...	...	...	...	89	1	1	1	51	21	14
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	25	1	3	8	8	3	2
Syphilitic Diseases ...	...	...	...	16	—	—	—	1	9	6
Influenza ...	...	...	...	31	1	—	—	3	7	20
Measles ...	...	...	...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis ...	...	...	...	4	—	—	1	3	—	—
Acute inf. encephalitis ...	...	...	...	6	1	—	—	2	—	3
Cancer of Buc. Cav. and Œsoph. (M) Uterus (F) ...	...	...	...	54	—	—	—	4	15	35
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	...	...	...	119	—	—	—	4	33	82
Cancer of Breast ...	...	...	...	68	—	—	—	2	23	43
Cancer of all other sites ...	...	...	...	390	—	—	1	19	124	246
Diabetes ...	...	...	...	32	—	1	—	3	7	21
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions ...	...	...	...	612	—	—	—	11	98	503
Heart Disease ...	...	...	...	1304	—	—	1	13	170	1120
Other diseases of Circulatory System ...	...	...	...	169	—	—	—	—	16	153
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	170	4	—	1	4	23	138
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	126	39	3	1	7	20	56
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	...	...	...	54	1	—	—	3	18	32
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	...	...	...	26	—	—	—	4	11	11
Diarrhœa under 2 years ...	...	...	...	24	23	1	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis ...	...	...	...	17	—	—	2	5	4	6
Other Digestive Diseases ...	...	...	...	89	1	1	—	7	28	52
Nephritis ...	...	...	...	97	—	—	—	5	20	72
Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis ...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Maternal Causes ...	...	...	...	7	—	—	—	7	—	—
Premature Birth ...	...	...	...	65	65	—	—	—	—	—
Con. mal., birth inj., infant dis. ...	...	...	...	109	102	—	2	3	2	—
Suicide ...	...	...	...	35	—	—	—	10	14	11
Road Traffic Accidents ...	...	...	...	36	—	4	4	9	15	4
Other violent causes ...	...	...	...	16	3	1	9	18	23	42
All other causes ...	...	...	...	475	9	3	6	30	52	375
All causes ...	...	...	...	4354	258	19	38	236	756	3047



# **General Provision of Health Services in the Area**

## **LABORATORY.**

8437 specimens were examined at the Public Health Laboratory during the year.

## **AMBULANCE FACILITIES, NURSING IN THE HOME, HOSPITALS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1929.**

There has been no alteration in these Services.

## **HOSPITAL CAR SERVICE.**

Increasing use has been made of the Hospital Car Service (organised by the St. John Ambulance Brigade, the British Red Cross (Norfolk Branch) and the W.V. S.) This Service, which commenced on the 1st August, 1945, provides very valuable assistance to patients who have to attend at the various Hospitals and Clinics in the county and who are unable to travel by public transport.

# **Maternity and Child Welfare**

## **MIDWIFERY SERVICES.**

As Local Supervising Authority for the whole of the administrative county, notifications were received by the County Council from 215 midwives of their intention to practise in the area.

## **MIDWIVES' ACT, 1936.**

Full particulars of the Council's scheme and agreement with the Norfolk Nursing Federation appeared in the Annual Report for 1937. No changes have been made in this scheme.

Section 6 of the Act has been applied to the area.

## **INSPECTION OF MIDWIVES.**

Routine inspection of midwives continues and 406 such visits were paid in this connection during the year. Special visits to cases requiring supervision were also paid wherever necessary.

Midwives are required to summon medical help under the rules of the Central Midwives Board in certain specified emergency and to notify the Local Supervising Authority that this has been done. 535 notifications were received in respect of domiciliary cases, and a further 137 for patients in Institutions.

During 1947, 22 domiciliary and one institutional midwives were trained to administer analgesia in accordance with the requirements of the Central Midwives Board. At the end of the year 53 domiciliary and 4 institutional midwives were qualified. As vacancies can be obtained training in this work will continue. 152 administrations of analgesia were made during the year in domiciliary practice.

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

The cases notified are shewn in the following table:—

Year.	Cases.			Vision un- impaired.	Vision im- paired.	Vision Lost.	Deaths.	Under treatment at end of year.
	Notified.	Treated.						
		At Home.	At Hospital.					
1943	10	8	5	10	—	—	—	—
1944	13	11	2	13	—	—	—	—
1945	21	16	5	21	—	—	—	—
1946	15	13	2	14	—	—	—	1
1947	6	3	3	6	—	—	—	—

## PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

25 notifications were received, 4 being in respect of institutional cases. In no case was it necessary to ask for a second opinion. 2 patients were removed to Hospital.

## INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS AND CHILDREN.

24 beds were provided for maternity cases in 8 Public Assistance Institutions. 151 mothers were admitted to these beds during the year. The 16 beds provided at the Emergency Maternity Home, Stow Vicarage, were used for the reception of 155 expectant mothers of whom 143 came from the administrative county. 24 other anticipated normal cases were admitted to the Wisbech County Maternity Home and 12 to Hartismere House, Eye. 10 mothers were admitted to Addenbrookes Hospital, 34 to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital and 2 to the West Norfolk and King's Lynn General Hospital, for their difficult confinements.

Admission of 20 girls to voluntary Homes for unmarried mothers and other institutions was authorised. 6 of these cases were dealt with at Cliff Hostel, Norwich, which was run by the Diocesan Moral Welfare Association and at which the County Council reserved 6 beds. The hostel was, however, closed on the 7th June.

Adaptations are continuing at Stow Hall, Downham Market, and Drayton Hall, near Norwich, to enable them to be used as Maternity Homes but these adaptations are not likely to be completed for some considerable time.

## MATERNAL MORTALITY.

The causes of death due to pregnancy or childbirth are given by the Registrar-General as follow:—

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	—
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	7
			—
Total	...	...	7
			—



Year.	Maternal Deaths.		No. of Births.	Rate per 1000 total Births.		England and Wales.		
1937	...	8	...	4878	...	1.58	...	3.11
1938	...	10	...	4861	...	1.98	...	3.08
1939	...	20	...	4907	...	4.01	...	2.82
1940	...	9	...	4992	...	1.67	...	2.16
1941	...	12	...	5667	...	2.12	...	2.23
1942	...	7	...	6238	...	1.12	...	2.01
1943	...	11	...	5978	...	1.84	...	2.29
1944	...	13	...	6611	...	1.97	...	1.93
1945	...	8	...	6151	...	1.30	...	1.79
1946	...	11	...	6780	...	1.62	...	1.06
1947	...	7	...	7090	...	0.97	...	1.17

The cases of women who died in, or immediately following, childbirth were investigated, and confidential reports sent to the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health.

I wish again to record my appreciation of the co-operation of the medical practitioners in reporting voluntarily all such cases, and enabling the desired confidential reports to be completed.

## NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

The County Council is Maternity and Child Welfare Authority for the whole of the Administrative County, with the exception of King's Lynn Borough.

5814 births (live and still) were notified in the County Maternity and Child Welfare Area.

## HEALTH VISITING.

With the exception of a few areas, the County is covered by the District Nurse-Midwives as part-time Health Visitors, there being only one whole-time Visitor.

The following is a brief summary of the health visitors' work during the past five years:—

Year.	Expectant Mothers.		Infants under 1 year.		Children 1—5 years.	Grand Total.
	First Visits.	Total Visits.	First Visits.	Total Visits.		
1943	4447	21116	4539	42916	56091	120123
1944	4683	22512	5007	43376	53823	119711
1945	4092	19552	4619	42411	54106	116069
1946	4900	22624	5018	44054	56802	123480
1947	4858	22887	5785	46137	54575	123599



## **MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.**

At the end of the year 32 Infant Welfare Centres, provided and maintained by the County Council, had been established, an increase of one over the previous year. In addition 2 centres were being provided and maintained by Voluntary Associations aided by grants from the Council. Grants were also made to 2 centres outside the County in respect of attendances made by Norfolk mothers and children. 20 Weighing Centres were also provided by Voluntary Associations.

1637 children under, and 348 over, the age of one year attended infant Welfare Centres for the first time during the year. At the end of the period under review 1286 children under, and 1834 over, the age of one year were attending the centres.

## **ANTE- AND POST-NATAL WORK.**

The Ante-Natal Scheme, fully described in the 1937 Report, has been continued without amendment. During 1947, 1180 expectant mothers were examined ante-natally.

Under the Post-Natal Scheme 104 mothers were referred and examined. In addition 8 post-natal examinations were carried out at a Voluntary Clinic.

## **ANCILLARY SERVICES.**

### **FREE DOCTOR OR MIDWIFE.**

The Council has continued to make arrangements for medical attendance and, if necessary, hospital treatment when a case is unsuitable to be undertaken by a midwife and the patient is unable to engage a doctor privately.

### **HOME HELPS.**

Although the Council does not employ Home Helps in maternity cases, the scheme has been continued whereby financial assistance is provided, in necessitous cases, by contributing varying proportions of the Home Help's wages, in accordance with the financial circumstances of the individual cases 36 cases were assisted in this way during the year.

### **TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.**

Approved general practitioners perform tonsil and adenoid operations in cases referred by medical officers of the Infant Welfare Centres. The cost of treatment is borne by the Council.

### **BIRTH CONTROL.**

The facilities of the Norwich Mother's Clinic for Constructive Birth Control and the Cambridge Women's Welfare Association are available for County mothers in cases where further pregnancies would, in the opinion of their medical practitioner, prove detrimental to health. Grants are paid by the Council to these bodies.

## **PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.**

The scheme which enables young children with defective vision to be examined by the part-time Ophthalmic Specialists has been continued. 21 children were examined under this scheme during 1947.

## **HEALTH PROPAGANDA.**

The annual grant of 10/- per 1000 of the population to the Central Council for Health Education was continued. This body renders much useful service by arranging for posters on important health and hygiene matters to be displayed on prominent advertisement hoardings and in passenger transport vehicles etc. In addition much valuable literature on Health matters is available for distribution by local Authorities, free or at low cost. The fullest possible use is made of the services of the Central Council.

## **MILK SCHEME FOR NECESSITOUS EXPECTANT OR NURSING MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.**

The administration of this scheme throughout the area is carried out by the County Council. The number of applications is now very much smaller than when the scheme was first adopted. All applications are referred to one Committee who considers each case on its merits. A scale of income has been adopted and is used as the guiding factor but is not rigidly adhered to once the medical need has been established.

In addition dried milk and other welfare foods and medicaments are available for sale at cost price at Infant Welfare Centres throughout the County and, at the Public Health Department, for districts not well served by the Centres. The following list shows the issues of these articles during 1947:—

Dried Milk Foods ...	...	...	39,424 lbs.
Adexolin ...	...	...	525 bots.
Parrishes Food ...	...	...	208 bots.
Virol ...	...	...	2,577 8 oz. cartons
Maltoline ...	...	...	740 10 oz. jars.
Maltoline and Iron ...	...	...	837 10 oz. jars.
Glucose ...	...	...	1,479 4 oz. pks.
Halibut Liver Oil ...	...	...	1,001 5 c.c. bots.
Iron Tablets ...	...	...	228 pkts.
Ostocalcium Tablets ...	...	...	3,860
Vitamin "C" Tablets ...	...	...	600
Lactagol ...	...	...	975 tins.
Brand's Strained Foods ...	...	...	3,050 bots.
Farex ...	...	...	2,150 pkts.
Brestol ...	...	...	102 tins.
Scott's Baby Cereal ...	...	...	55 pkts.

## **UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.**

Moral Welfare Associations cover the area and grants have been made to them during the year. Some 250 cases were dealt with by the workers including 6 cases at Cliff Hostel.

Financial help was also given during the year to 14 girls who were sent to Rescue Homes or Mother and Baby Homes in various parts of the country.



# DENTAL SCHEME FOR NECESSITOUS EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS.

This scheme continued to be a great help to mothers. Treatment is given by a panel of qualified dental surgeons who are paid the same fees as for National Health Insurance patients. The following table shows treatment carried out during the year:—

No. of cases in which treatment was authorised.	No. of cases in which treatment was completed during the year.			
	1946 authorisation.		1947 authorisation.	
	Extractions, etc.	Dentures.	Extractions, etc.	Dentures.
118	3	28	77	44

## CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

No change has been made in the administration of Sections 206—220 of the Public Health Act, 1936, during the year. All routine visiting is carried out by the School Nurses but supervisory visits are made by members of the medical staff and the staff of the Superintendent Health Visitor.

The following figures indicate the position at the beginning and end of the year (figures in brackets are those for 1946):—

1. Foster Parents.				
No. on Register on 1st January, 1947	...	...	139	(174)
No. on Register on 31st December, 1947	...	...	115	(139)
2. Nurse Children.				
No. on Register on 1st January, 1947	...	...	173	(190)
No. removed from Register during year	...	...	77	(127)
No. of new Registrations	...	...	43	(110)
No. on Register on 31st December, 1947	...	...	139	(173)
3. Homes.				
Voluntary	...	...	2	(2)
Private	...	...	1	(1)

(These homes were not exempted from visiting. 76 children were resident at the end of the year. (21).

Foster mothers were not guaranteed payment by the Welfare Authority. No deaths of foster-children were recorded.

4. Visits made by Inspectors during year.				
No. of Primary Reports:—				
(a) Homes	...	...	38	(118)
(b) Nurse Children	...	...	43	(110)
No. of further reports on Nurse Children	...	...	949	(499)

## ADOPTION OF CHILDREN (REGULATION) ACT, 1939.

No. of persons who gave notice under Section 7(3) during the year	...	...	25	(31)
Total No. of children “adopted” during the year	...	...	25	(12)
No. of such children under supervision at the end of the year	...	...	19	(19)



## MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

The following table shows details of the action which has been taken under Sections 187—199 of the Public Health Act, 1936, during the year ended 31st December, 1947:—

No. of applications for registration	...	...	...	2	(5)
No. of applications refused	...	...	...	—	(—)
No. of registrations cancelled	...	...	...	5	(5)
Total No. of Homes registered at 31st December, 1947	...			24	(27)
No. of beds provided:—					
(a) Maternity	...	...	...	68	(51)
(b) Others	...	...	...	155	(142)

No applications have been received under Section 194 of the Act for delegation of powers.

## Orthopædic Treatment

The administration of the Scheme has been continued on the lines of previous years, and arrangements for treatment have worked smoothly. There has, however, been no easing of the position with regard to the waiting lists for patients requiring operative treatment at the Norfolk & Norwich and Jenny Lind Hospitals, although I would place on record my thanks to the authorities at these hospitals for their ready co-operation in arranging for the admission of urgent cases.

The number of cases on the register continues to increase. There were 3561 on the register at the end of the year compared with 3071 at the beginning. The engagement of an additional physiotherapist was authorised, but it was not found possible to make an appointment. The vacancy on the establishment caused by the resignation of Miss N. Polglase towards the end of 1946 was, however, filled by the appointment of Mrs. M. P. Baker, who commenced duty on the 2nd June, 1947.

### ASCERTAINMENT.

Ascertainment has been continued as in the past. Most of the cases are referred for examination and treatment by Assistant Medical Officers from school medical inspection, Medical Officers of Infant Welfare Centres, Medical Practitioners and from hospitals. During the year under review, 940 cases were added to the register, consisting of 681 education, 178 maternity and child welfare, 28 tuberculosis and 53 public assistance patients.

### CLINICS HELD BY ORTHOPÆDIC SURGEON.

The severe weather experienced during the first three months of the year caused several clinics to be cancelled and adversely affected the attendance at others. 58(62) clinics in all were held, 47(50) at Norwich and 11(12) at King's Lynn. 1206 (1297) patients were examined, of whom 295(313) were new and 911(984) old cases. 547(671) were education, 226(263) maternity and child welfare, 219(187) tuberculosis and 214(176) public assistance cases. 39(42) King's Lynn children under 5 years of age were also examined. (Figures in brackets are the comparable ones for 1946.)

### HOSPITAL TREATMENT.

149 individual cases received in-patient treatment during the year. These cases were in hospital for a total of 13,373 days, an approximate average of 37 beds occupied daily throughout the year.

## CASES ON THE REGISTER.

During the year 124 cases were transferred from the Maternity and Child Welfare section of the register to the Education section, and 34 from the Education section to the Public Assistance section. At the end of the year there were 3561 current cases on the register:—

	E.	M.C.W.	T.B.	P.A.	Totals.
Flat feet and valgus ankles ...	822	72	—	41	935
Claw feet ...	49	3	—	19	71
Hammer toes ...	22	3	—	10	35
Hallux valgus ...	38	—	—	17	55
Other toe deformities ...	43	8	—	14	65
Knock knees ...	596	129	—	12	737
Bow legs ...	94	87	—	1	182
Arthritis ...	7	—	—	21	28
Congenital deformities:—					
Hip ...	25	7	—	14	46
Feet ...	80	54	—	28	162
Hand ...	5	2	—	—	7
Toes ...	—	7	—	—	7
Arm ...	2	1	—	—	3
Legs ...	2	—	—	1	3
Others ...	5	1	—	—	6
Infantile Paralysis ...	42	6	—	50	98
Spastic Paralysis ...	50	8	—	22	80
Muscular dystrophy and atrophy ...	5	4	—	2	11
Erb's paralysis ...	6	2	—	1	9
Spinal deformities ...	157	2	88	70	317
Round Shoulders ...	35	—	—	—	35
Hip diseases (not congenital) ...	10	—	39	10	59
Wry Neck ...	66	21	—	3	90
Chest ...	42	1	—	5	48
Spina bifida ...	5	2	—	1	8
Osteomyelitis ...	19	—	—	14	33
Amputations ...	4	—	—	19	23
Old Injuries ...	18	—	—	13	31
Multiple deformities ...	3	2	—	3	8
Miscellaneous ...	75	25	1	32	133
Posture ...	153	—	—	12	165
Rickets ...	9	6	—	—	15
Knee ...	—	—	21	—	21
Wrist ...	—	—	4	—	4
Shoulder ...	—	—	5	—	5
Sternum ...	—	—	1	—	1
Sacro iliac joint ...	—	—	5	—	5
Elbow ...	—	—	7	—	7
Feet ...	—	—	2	—	2
Fingers ...	—	—	1	—	1
Multiple ...	—	—	7	—	7
Ankle ...	—	—	3	—	3
	<hr/> 2489	<hr/> 453	<hr/> 184	<hr/> 435	<hr/> 3561



## CASES DISCONTINUED.

535 patients have been discharged from the scheme during the year as follows:—

	E.	M. & C.W.	T.B.	P.A.	Total.
Cured ... ..	133	23	5	25	186
No further treatment required ...	38	1	1	40	80
Left school—no further treatment required ... ..	50	—	—	—	50
Treatment would not benefit ...	8	—	—	—	8
Treatment not necessary ...	66	1	1	4	72
Removed from County ...	46	21	3	8	78
Treatment refused ... ..	3	1	—	1	5
Private treatment ... ..	9	1	—	1	11
Died ... ..	—	1	3	1	5
Untraceable ... ..	26	9	1	4	40
	<hr/> 379	<hr/> 58	<hr/> 14	<hr/> 84	<hr/> 535

85 of the patients discharged were added to and removed from the register during the year.

## SERVICES OF THE PHYSIOTHERAPISTS.

In common with the rest of the country, Norfolk experienced a much heavier incidence of infantile paralysis cases than usual. A large number of the cases were admitted to the County Isolation Hospital, East Dereham. These cases require specialised orthopædic treatment almost from the onset of the disease and as no physiotherapist was included on the staff of the Isolation Hospital it was necessary to divert the services of the physiotherapists from their normal duties to this work. From the beginning of August until the end of the year one or more of the physiotherapists visited the Hospital to carry out treatment almost daily (including Sundays) and this materially affected their normal duties.

The severe cases were transferred to White Lodge, Newmarket, but the majority were discharged home after the infectious stages were passed, and this caused further disorganisation of the routine work as the physiotherapists had to carry out lengthy treatments in the patients' own homes two or three times weekly for a prolonged period.

The physiotherapists shouldered a very heavy burden during this period and are deserving of high praise for the cheerful and unselfish way in which they carried out these duties which involved so many long working days.

8214 treatments were given or examinations made by the physiotherapists, 4355 to education, 2518 to maternity and child welfare, 716 to tuberculous and 625 to public assistance cases. Two physiotherapists were engaged full time



throughout the year on this work, and a third commenced duty at the beginning of June. In addition, the arrangements have been continued whereby one physiotherapist devotes 3 sessions weekly to county visits and the remainder of her time equally to treating patients in Melton Lodge and Great Yarmouth Borough cases.

### **SURGICAL APPLIANCES.**

185 orders were issued authorising surgical appliances as follows:—

	E.	M.	T.B.	P.A.
Surgical boots and instruments ...	17	2	9	17
Spinal supports, correcting splints, etc. ...	27	71	28	14

### **MELTON LODGE.**

It was necessary owing to shortage of nursing staff again to reduce the number of beds available. During 1947, 16 beds were available. There was a total of 5319 in-patient days equivalent to 14.5 beds occupied daily. Of these, 12.5 beds were occupied by Norfolk patients. The number of in-patient days was less than the maximum due to the need for keeping beds available for cases temporarily transferred to the Norwich hospitals for operative treatment or changes of plaster.

## **Prevalence of Control over Infectious and other Diseases**

1947 saw a severe outbreak of infantile paralysis throughout the country, and a minor epidemic occurred in Norfolk. 44 cases were notified and confirmed and a large number of suspicious cases were reported pending confirmation of diagnosis. These cases require lengthy periods of treatment in hospitals, and caused the Isolation Hospital at Dereham great difficulty owing to the shortage of nursing staff.

### **ISOLATION HOSPITAL.**

The County Isolation Hospital serves the whole of the administrative county except King's Lynn M.B., the Urban Districts of Cromer, Sheringham and North Walsham, and the Rural Districts of Erpingham and Marshland. There is accommodation for 100 patients.

Admissions are arranged through the Public Health Department, and are restricted to cases where the home conditions make it impossible to isolate the patient or the patient requires skilled nursing attention.

The following details give some indication of the value of the hospital, although the shortage of nursing staff has seriously restricted the number of beds that have been available:—

No. of patients in hospital 1st January, 1947	...	...	12
No. of patients admitted during 1947	...	...	217
No. of patients who died in hospital	...	...	2
No. of patients in hospital 31st December, 1947	...	...	15

The 217 patients admitted were suffering from the following diseases:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	44
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	10
Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	22
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough and Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	11
Measles and Rubella	...	...	...	...	22
Chickenpox, Impetigo, Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	6
Glandular Fever	...	...	...	...	4
Streptococcal Faucitis	...	...	...	...	5
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	13
Venereal Disease	...	...	...	...	7
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	70
					<hr/> 217 <hr/>

**DEATHS.**

The deaths were due to:—

Secondary Carcinoma	...	...	...	1
Diabetic Coma	...	...	...	1
				<hr/> 2 <hr/>

**SMALLPOX HOSPITAL.**

No patients were admitted to the County Smallpox Hospital.

NOTIFICATIONS.

The following table gives details of notifications of infectious diseases received from the whole of the administrative county. The number of deaths from certain of the diseases is also shown:—

Disease.	No. of cases notified.	Deaths as given by Registrar-General.
Diphtheria ...	10	—
Scarlet Fever ...	243	—
Erysipelas ...	48	Not given
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	27	—
Measles ...	1573	2
Whooping Cough ...	832	3
Chickenpox ...	63	Not given
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	5	Not given
Dysentery ...	21	Not given
Typhoid or Enteric Fever ...	7	—
Paratyphoid Fever ...	3	—
Pneumonia ...	247	126
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary) ...	215	89
Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary) ...	121	25
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	15	4
Polioencephalitis ...	44	4
Poliomyelitis ...		
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	2	—
Acute Inf. Encephalitis ...	—	6
Infective Jaundice ...	153	Not given
Malaria ...	4	Not given
Smallpox ...	—	Not given
Food Poisoning ...	10	Not given
Scabies ...	21	Not given
Undulant Fever ...	1	Not given
Pneumococcal Meningitis ...	1	Not given
Total	3666	259

It will be noticed that only 12 cases of diphtheria were notified during the year, all of whom recovered. This excellent state of affairs is attributed largely to the intensive immunisation campaign.

CANCER.

The death rates per 1000 population during the last seven years have been:—

1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
1.92	1.97	1.91	1.92	1.91	2.02	1.83

The age distribution of the deaths registered in 1947 was as follows:—

	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65-	Total
Males ...	0	0	1	13	96	190	300
Females ...	0	0	0	16	99	216	331
Total ...	0	0	1	29	195	406	631

The facilities for treatment remain as set out in the Report for 1938,



## VENEREAL DISEASES.

During 1947 the treatment centre was re-established at the County Isolation Hospital, East Dereham. Three centres have now been established under the Public Health (V.D.) Regulations of 1916—at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, County Isolation Hospital, East Dereham, and the West Norfolk and King's Lynn Hospital, King's Lynn.

364 new patients (excluding Service cases) from the administrative county attended during the year as follows:—

Clinic	Syphilis.	Gonorrhœa.	Non-V.D. and undiagnosed conditions.	Total.
Norwich ...	36	53	146	235
King's Lynn...	16	22	71	109
East Dereham	5	7	8	20
	<hr/> 57	<hr/> 82	<hr/> 225	<hr/> 364

These figures show a very marked and welcome decline over the previous year when 638 new patients attended the clinics.

The following table gives details of the total attendances of Norfolk patients at each clinic for the past six years:—

Year.	Norwich.	King's Lynn	East Dereham.	Total.
1942 ...	9132	1900	—	11032
1943 ...	5901	2292	—	8193
1944 ...	3895	2209	—	6104
1945 ...	2381	2274	—	4655
1946 ...	3065	1574	—	4639
1947 ...	3013	1102	230	4345

### In-patient Treatment.

	Norwich.	King's Lynn.	East Dereham.
(a) Total number of persons admitted	34	7	11
(b) Aggregate number of "in-patient" days ...	258	53	94

### Defence Regulations—Regulation 33b.

No cases were referred under these regulations during the year.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

No change has been made in the scheme of treatment. Two Tuberculosis Officers cover the County, one being centred upon King's Lynn and the other Norwich. Each has the assistance of a tuberculosis visitor, the vacancy in the Western area having been filled during the year by the return of Miss Ward.

**Incidence—Comparative Statement.**

The number of new cases reported by formal notification or otherwise, and the case rates per 1000 of the population, during the past 5 years, are as follows:—

Year.		Number of Pulmonary cases.			Case- rate.	Number of Non-pulmonary cases.			Case- rate.
1943	...	209	...	.64	...	152	...	.46	
1944	...	312	...	.94	...	162	...	.49	
1945	...	246	...	.70	...	159	...	.48	
1946	...	284	...	.85	...	113	...	.34	
1947	...	215	...	.62	...	121	...	.35	

The mortality figures for the same period are as follows:—

Year.	Number of Pulmonary cases.			Case- rate.	Number of Non-pulmonary cases.			Case- rate.
1943	...	103	...	.31	...	29	...	.09
1944	...	120	...	.36	...	31	...	.09
1945	...	102	...	.31	...	22	...	.06
1946	...	94	...	.28	...	26	...	.07
1947	...	89	...	.26	...	25	...	.07

**Examinations and Dispensary Records.**

During the year, 2006 new cases (including 622 contacts) were examined. Of these 453 were diagnosed as definitely tuberculous, while 761 cases were regarded as sufficiently suspicious to justify their being kept under observation.

3076 patients (1146 pulmonary, 693 non-pulmonary and 1237 doubtful) were on the Dispensary Register at the end of December 1947.

In the course of the year, 487 cases were written off, 80 as recovered, 218 as non-tuberculous, 94 deceased and 95 removed from the County or otherwise lost sight of.

3262 X-ray photographs were taken during the year.

53 patients were given a total of 1057 artificial pneumothorax refills by the Tuberculosis Officers.

**Residential Treatment.**

450 patients received treatment in sanatoria or hospitals. 308 were discharged, 30 died and 112 were still receiving in-patient treatment at the 31st December, 1947.

**Sanitary Circumstances**

The County Sanitary Officer reports as follows:—

**I. WATER SUPPLIES AND SEWERAGE SCHEMES.**

The passing of the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944, was of great significance to the County of Norfolk because at that time, of the 523 rural parishes, 383 did not possess any form of public piped water supply. Although at the time of the passing of the Water Act, the national effort and



resources were concentrated on the winning of the War, very little time elapsed before the District Councils engaged the services of Consulting Engineers to prepare their water schemes.

In almost every rural district, with the exception of those adjoining the areas of large water undertakers, these schemes have been planned on the basis of moderate size headworks serving fairly large groups in each District Council's area. It has been generally agreed amongst the Norfolk Authorities that this type of scheme is preferable in view of distribution difficulties and expense which would have to be incurred in the development of underground sources for a fewer number of larger schemes.

The average daily requirement of an area of the size of a Rural District on the basis of 30 g.p.h.p.d. is about 500,000 gls. and in most of the districts in the County which are not already covered by piped supplies, quantities in this neighbourhood can be obtained from underground sources with one or two headworks of moderate size.

The schemes, as originally planned, made allowances varying from 25 g.p.h.p.d. to as much as 60 g.p.h.p.d. while some proposed provision for a complete supply for agricultural and stock purposes. Others allowed for substantial future increases in population in the Rural districts, reaching as much as 20% in some cases, and all assumed that every person in the district would take a supply from the mains. Faced with such a wide variety of estimates, the County Council set out to fix a standard of design for the County which would make reasonable provision for the future, and which at the same time would not so inflate the cost of the schemes as to render it impossible to bring them to fruition. An exhaustive enquiry was undertaken with a view to ascertaining the actual consumption in existing schemes, the trend, the percentage of the population which could be expected to connect up to the new mains when they are laid, and the probable extent of the agricultural demand upon the new schemes. In the light of the evidence obtained, the County Council undertook negotiations with the Ministry of Health and finally reached agreement as to a basis of design to meet present and future requirements for all schemes in the Norfolk Rural Districts. Allowance is to be made for 25 g.p.h.p.d. together with an additional quantity for trade and agricultural purposes equivalent to 5 g.p.h.p.d., i.e. a total maximum consumption of 30 g.p.h.p.d. This is to be based on the total 1931 population of the area concerned, plus an allowance for seasonal influx in the coastal villages. It is considered that this will allow sufficient water for basic agricultural requirements in view of the fact that a considerable proportion of the properties cannot be connected. It is, of course, necessary to calculate the sizes of mains on the assumption that there will be periods of peak demand made upon them and they are normally to be designed to meet this at two and a half times the average flow. In addition, a suitable allowance will be made for incrustation.

The schemes so far formulated represent what may be regarded as the "preliminary plan" and it would be wrong to assume that no deviation from the proposed lines of mains is likely. They have been planned so that they can be carried out in stages, and although each stage may be subject to local amendment following the detailed engineering and other investigations involved, it will be designed with due regard to its ultimate place in the whole.

Through its Water Supplies and Sewerage Sub-Committee, the County Council is responsible for considering the proposals and for contributing towards the cost, and has been particularly concerned with securing integration between the districts and with the need for keeping the number of headworks in the county down to a minimum consistent with economical distribution. Many discussions between representatives of the County Council and District Councils and their Consulting Engineers have taken place, and, where necessary, proposals have been modified and amended to meet the general county policy.

During the same year under review, the County Water Supplies and Sewerage Sub-Committee has considered the following works and schemes which in most cases form part of the respective District Council's regional water scheme:—

### **Blofield and Flegg R.D.**

Protracted negotiations with the neighbouring Smallburgh District Council regarding the testing of bores to serve both areas resulted in agreement being reached, and further investigations as to the capacity of both sources will now proceed.

Extension of the existing mains to provide supplies to the villages of Fleggburgh and Hemsby.

### **Depwade R.D.**

Provision of an additional branch main to supply the parish of Thelveton.

Purchase and extension of an existing Air Ministry main to supply the housing site at Fersfield.

Provision of small local extension of mains from Diss to supply part of the village of Roydon.

### **Docking R.D./Hunstanton U.D.**

Provision of an additional reservoir by the two District Councils to meet the increased water requirements of both the parishes of Hunstanton and Heacham.

### **Downham R.D.**

Proposals for extending existing piped supplies and increasing capacity of waterworks. A detailed survey of the area revealed that many more extensions will be required for agricultural purposes and details of these will be submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries with a view to financial contribution being made.

### **Erpingham R.D.**

Renovation of existing headworks at Mundesley.

### **Forehoe and Henstead R.D.**

Provision of piped supplies from Wymondham to Wicklewood and Morley Council housing sites.



### **Freebridge Lynn R.D.**

Revision of regional scheme based on co-ordination with Sandringham Estates scheme. Proposals envisage treating the district in two areas, viz.—  
(i) low level zone to be supplied principally from Sandringham Estate source;  
(ii) high level zone to be supplied from the Flitcham source which upon test pumping has given extremely satisfactory results, the maximum yield being 35,500 g.p.h.

### **Loddon R.D.**

Provision of piped supplies to the parishes of Woodton, Bedingham, Topcroft, Brooke, Seething, Kirstead, Mundham, Chedgrave and Loddon, and a Council housing site at Ditchingham.

### **Marshland R.D.**

Proposals regarding extension of mains in the area supplied by Wisbech Waterworks Co., construction of a water tower near Terrington St. Clement to balance demand based on supplies from King's Lynn M.B.

### **St. Faith's and Aylsham R.D.**

Provision of a temporary supply to the parishes of Foulsham and Themelthorpe by the extension of existing Air Ministry mains at Foulsham.

### **Swaffham R.D.**

Provision of a piped water supply to the parish of Mundford.

A test bore at the Bradenham source was sunk and the resulting yield of water proved to be very satisfactory. Detailed planning of the regional scheme based upon this source is proceeding.

Scheme for supplying the village of Weeting by means of bulk supplies from Brandon.

### **Smallburgh R.D.**

Protracted negotiations with Blofield R.D. resulted in agreement being reached regarding joint exploration of a source to meet the needs of the North East area of Blofield and Southern area of Smallburgh.

Approval in principle was given to the revised regional scheme involving reduction in size of mains and re-designing the storage reservoir to meet the new basis of demand, i.e., 30 g.p.h.p.d.

### **Walsingham R.D.**

Revised proposals approved regarding Stage II of the regional water scheme to include (i) full development of Houghton as the major source—test pumping of this source was carried out, and the excellent yield of 40,000 g.p.h. obtained; (ii) construction of a major reservoir at Gunthorpe; (iii) provision of a rising main from Houghton to Gunthorpe; and (iv) laying of majority of the distribution mains for the district.



At the Public Inquiry into this scheme the Ministry of Health approved the arrangements whereby some parishes in the neighbouring Rural District of Mitford and Launditch could obtain supplies from the Colkirk main in the Walsingham district.

### **Wayland R.D.**

Revised proposals for district water scheme approved. Proposals to include development of Watton Waterworks; construction of major reservoir at Carbrooke; development and extension of distribution system at Bury's Hall.

Purchase of existing Air Ministry Works at East Wretham and Deopham approved.

Local extensions approved:—Old Buckenham Hall area, 3" main to Downmere Farm to be extended 1200 yards; Watton, 200 yards of 3" main along Thetford Road; Besthorpe/Bunwell road, extension of Attleborough 4" main from point near Railway Crossing for 1½ miles towards Bunwell village; Gt. Ellingham, extension of main to supply local school; Lt. Ellingham, extensions from existing Air Ministry main to supply the Council housing site; Blo' Norton, short branch connection of 3" main to supply 14 new houses; Eccles, extension of 2380 yards of 3" main from Banham Moor, and 1120 yards of 4" main from New Farm to supply 24 houses.

### **Diss U.D.**

Proposals regarding joint exploration by Diss U.D.C. and Depwade R.D.C. of the source at Diss and the sinking of a trial bore.

### **North Walsham U.D.**

Proposals for increasing output and storage at Waterworks approved.

## **SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.**

There is a school of thought which contends that public sewerage and sewage disposal plants are inevitable consequences where piped water has been introduced to houses. This is a debatable view, but it is worth emphasising that the real question is not so much sewerage will be necessary as *when* i.e., ought sewerage schemes for all parishes to be prepared concurrently with those for piped water. The findings consequent upon such research into the problem of sewerage schemes in Norfolk suggest that this should be done only in exceptional cases where there is abundant evidence that piped water will create a serious sewage disposal problem in the very early stages. That is to say, where the density of the houses is considerable, where it is impossible to dispose of sewage by independent arrangements on the site and, above all, where it is anticipated that the introduction of piped water will lead to a considerable increase in consumption due to the almost immediate installation of W.C.s, baths etc. The provision of such amenities must, of course, be the aim, but it is bound to be some years before this ideal can be attained, and during the interim period, it should be possible in many of the rural parishes to deal with sewage other than by a public scheme of disposal.

Water and sewerage schemes not only involve heavy capital expenditure, but they absorb very considerable labour and material. There must be some order of priority if the more urgent needs are to be met first, and the provision of piped water must be the prime concern. We must avoid a position which would involve the employment of money, labour and materials in providing an unessential sewerage scheme in a tiny country village if that has the effect of deferring the introduction of piped water elsewhere.

Following upon the receipt of Ministry of Health Circular 87/47 regarding the policy of the Ministry of Health in connection with sewerage schemes, the County District Councils were invited to submit lists of those areas in their respective districts where sewerage will be necessary in a reasonable time. The Water Supplies and Sewerage Sub-Committee decided that a county priority list should be prepared, and the necessary surveying of the rural areas was commenced with a view to the presentation of a detailed report on sewerage requirements.

During the period under review, the Water Supplies and Sewerage Sub-Committee has considered matters and proposals relating to sewerage schemes in the following districts.

#### **Blofield and Flegg R.D.**

Proposals for the drainage of the Broads area by schemes for draining the villages of Martham, Hemsby, Ormesby and Winterton.

Provision of two additional pumps at the Caister Sewage Works.

#### **Smallburgh R.D.**

Proposals for sewerage of the parishes of Hoveton and Horning.

New site for Stalham disposal works (which would obviate necessity for repumping effluent) approved.

#### **St. Faith's and Aylsham R.D.**

Sewerage scheme for parish of Aylsham and to include St. Michael's Home finally approved.

#### **Swaffham R.D.**

Alternative site for proposed sewage disposal works to serve Watton (Wayland R.D.) and Saham sewerage schemes. Revised proposals regarding sewerage of Saham and Ashill.

#### **Walsingham R.D.**

Proposals for the sewerage of Council houses at Hempton—scheme to be designed so as to form part of regional sewerage scheme.

#### **Wayland R.D.**

Proposals regarding sewerage schemes for parishes of Watton and Carbrooke (part).



### **North Walsham U.D.**

Proposals for increasing capacity of sewage treatment plant approved. Canning Factory and Steam Laundry effluents to be considered with a view to contribution towards capital cost of scheme.

### **Hunstanton U.D.**

Proposals for the improvement of the existing sewerage arrangements.

### **Wells U.D.**

Sewerage scheme for the Urban District finally approved for grant purposes.

### **Thetford M.B.**

Sewerage scheme for the Municipal Borough finally approved for grant purposes.

## **WATER AND SEWERAGE—GENERAL.**

The booklet "Piped Water Supplies" is a comprehensive study of the proposed water schemes throughout the County, which was presented to the County Water Committee and published in September, 1947.

Investigations of water supplies at schools, canteens and police houses were made and 42 samples submitted for bacteriological and chemical analyses.

In view of the danger of pollution of water supplies—particularly shallow wells—as a result of the severe flooding in various parts of the county early this year, special arrangements were made with the District Medical Officers of Health and District Sanitary Inspectors to submit samples of water for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory.

## **II. HOUSING.**

Many complaints have been received regarding alleged overcrowding and unsatisfactory housing conditions, which have been referred to the appropriate local authorities for investigation. In many cases the primary concern of the applicants is for the welfare of young children or of those suffering from disablement. All such cases are referred to the District Medical Officer of Health for special investigation.

A second interim report on the progress of the Rural Housing Survey throughout the county as envisaged by the Hobhouse report was received by the Public Health Committee.

## **III. MILK AND DAIRIES.**

- (a) MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS. On the 31st December, 1947, 348 producers held Tuberculin Tested licences and 365 Accredited licences. 1314 samples were taken from Tuberculin Tested producers, and of these 285 failed to pass either the Methylene Blue or Coliform test. 1517 samples were taken from Accredited producers, and of these 326 failed the tests.



814 visits and inspections were made in connection with Tuberculin Tested and Accredited premises, prospective designated milk producers and in respect of cases brought before the Committee.

- (b) **MILK IN SCHOOLS' SCHEME.** On the 31st December, 1947, 490 schools were participating in the scheme, and of these the majority received bottled Tuberculin Tested or Heat Treated milk in accordance with the policy laid down by the Ministry of Education. In this connection special efforts are being made to ensure a wholesome milk supply to all schools in the county. 33 inspections of school milk producers' premises were made.
- (c) **TUBERCULOSIS IN MILK.** During the year 941 samples were taken from all sources for biological examination. Of these, examination was not complete in 75 cases due to the premature death of the guinea pig or otherwise, but of the 866 in which examination was complete 9 (1.04%) were found to contain living tubercle bacilli. The necessary investigations by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries to eliminate the source of infection were put in hand.

#### IV. GENERAL.

- (a) **ICE-CREAM.** In co-operation with District Sanitary Inspectors and the Public Health Laboratory, good progress has been made in the checking of the ice-cream manufactured and retailed in the county. A standard for ice-cream premises has been formulated and accepted as a guide to the construction of manufacturing premises. A central register of all manufacturers and retailers of ice-cream in the county has been prepared, and in co-operation with the Public Health Laboratory routine sampling of all supplies is being carried out.

The 80 samples submitted for examination up to the cessation of the seasonal trade were classified as follows:—

Grade I (satisfactory)	...	...	8
Grade II (satisfactory)	...	...	10
Grade III (doubtful)	...	...	15
Grade IV (very unsatisfactory)	...	...	47

In view of the heavy preponderance of unsatisfactory samples—77.5%, the Committee considered that steps should be taken to improve the conditions of manufacture and retailing of ice-cream.

- (b) **FOOD POISONING.** In July, 1947, an outbreak of food poisoning occurred at the Aylsham and Blickling Schools. Investigations proved that milk consumed at the schools was infected with the food poisoning organism *staphylococcus aureus*. The supply of milk to all the schools supplied by the producer concerned was stopped immediately, except in one case where facilities existed for boiling it, pending ascertainment of the source of infection. It was found that two cows in one of the herds were giving milk which was heavily infected with the causative organism, and these animals were isolated and treated. Following negative specimens, supplies to the schools were resumed on the 5th September, 1947.

- (c) **SANITARY COMPLAINTS.** 145 complaints regarding dilapidations, drainage, water supplies, etc., were received during the year, and were referred to the appropriate local authorities for investigation and necessary action.
- (d) **DISINFECTION.** 4790 articles were steam disinfected at the County Isolation Hospital, East Dereham, during the year.
- (e) **FRUIT PICKERS' CAMPS.** Inspection regarding the sanitary circumstances of six camps established by the War Agricultural Executive Committee in various parts of the county, was made during the period under review.

## **Blind Persons Acts, 1920 and 1938**

These Acts are administered by the County Council through the Public Health and Assistance Committee.

### **REGISTRATION.**

During the year ended 31st March, 1948, 90 new cases were examined and 69 of these were certified to be blind within the meaning of the Act. 18 of these new cases were under 50 years of age, 17 between 50 and 65, 9 between 65 and 70 whilst the remaining 25 were over 70 years of age.

At the end of the year there were 629 registered blind persons compared with 650 at the end of the previous year.

Persons who have been examined and are not blind within the meaning of the Act, but who have eye defects from which there is a possibility of their becoming blind at some future date, are recorded in a prevention register. A supplementary register is kept for follow up purposes, of persons who have been decertified.

All new cases who are able to travel are examined by ophthalmic specialists at Norwich or King's Lynn. The Form of Report and Certificate issued by the Ministry of Health is completed in all such cases. Persons, who through illhealth are unable to travel, are examined in their own homes by members of the Council's whole-time medical staff.

### **TRAINING.**

11 children were being educated at the East Anglian School for the Blind under the Education Committee's scheme at the end of the year.

### **HOME WORKERS.**

There are six Home Workers in the County.

### **EMPLOYMENT.**

In addition to the 6 home workers, 19 blind persons are employed in the workshops at the Norwich Institution for the Blind and a further 18 are able to support themselves from their earnings in various occupations. The unemployable blind number 560.



## **HOME TEACHING AND VISITING.**

Two whole-time teachers possess the certificate of the College of Teachers for the Blind. Two whole-time assistant home teachers were also engaged, an additional assistant having been appointed during the year.

5793 visits were made during the year compared with 4872 in 1946.

## **WELFARE.**

7 invalid chairs provided by the Council and loaned to necessitous cases have been in continual use throughout the year.

Assistance has been given towards the provision of clothing, dental treatment and medical requisites etc., in cases recommended by the home visitors.

The County Council arranges for the distribution of wireless sets provided by the Wireless for the Blind Fund and also for the repair of defective sets. Certificates are issued which enable registered blind persons to obtain wireless licences free of charge.

The Norwich Institution for the Blind has continued to make grants to recommended cases, from charitable funds, towards the cost of outings, holidays, and other extra comforts not normally provided.

## **SOCIAL CENTRES.**

Two further social centres were commenced during the year at Fakenham and King's Lynn, and there are now four such centres in the county, the others being at North Walsham and Diss. These centres are held monthly, and blind folk are brought in from the surrounding villages within a radius of some 10 miles. These centres are very much appreciated by the people who are able to attend. The Norwich Institution for the Blind is financially responsible, and I would like to record my thanks to the members of the W.V.S., B.R.C.S., and the North Walsham Rotary Club, who so very kindly bring the blind persons to the centres and convey them home again in their cars.

## **MAINTENANCE GRANTS.**

Enquiries are made into the financial circumstances of all the unemployable blind and, where necessary, their incomes are augmented. 337 persons were receiving allowances at the end of March, 1948, and the total amount of these grants during the year exceeded £17,000.

